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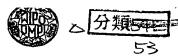
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#### INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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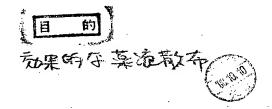
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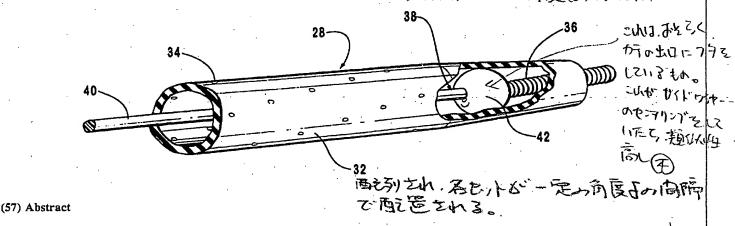
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With international search report.



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(54) Title: CATHETER WITH IMPROVED SPRAY PATTERN FOR PHARMACO-MECHANICAL THROMBOLYSIS THERAPY また、 同一角度 (0) み 南門に



An improved catheter (28) includes a double spiral configuration of infusion holes (34) around the circumference and along the length (32) of the catheter (28) which provides an improved lateral dispersion of a thrombolytic fluid to more completely and quickly lyse a clot through which the catheter (28) is passing. The double spiral configuration consists of groups or sets of infusion holes (34), typically groups of four. The holes (34) in each set are longitudinally spaced from each other at substantially regular intervals along the length (32) of the catheter (28). Each successive hole in a given group is circumferentially spaced by an angular distance of about 90° around the circumference of the catheter (28) relative to the immediately preceding hole (34). Each group of holes (34) is circumferentially spaced or offset by an angular distance of between 1° and 89° relative to the immediately preceding group of holes (34). Typically, the angular spacing between successive groups of holes is 18°.

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A catheter for introducing a liquid into the vascular system comprising:
an elongated tubular body having a single lumen therethrough and an
infusion length near a distal end thereof.

a plurality of infusion holes disposed along the infusion length of the tubular body, said infusion holes being longitudinally spaced along the infusion length of the tubular body at substantially regular intervals, said infusion holes belonging to a plurality of successive sets of holes, each successive hole within a given set being radially spaced apart from each immediately preceding hole within the given set by an angular distance of about  $\theta$ , each set of holes having a first hole and a last hole, each successive set of holes being circumferentially offset from an immediately preceding set by an angular distance  $\delta$  such that the first hole of an immediately succeeding set is circumferentially offset from the last hole of an immediately preceding set by an angle other than a multiple of  $\theta$ .

A catheter as defined in claim 1, wherein  $\theta = 360^{\circ}/n$ , wherein n is an integer greater than 1.

 $\sqrt{3}$ . A catheter as defined in claim 2, wherein n is equivalent to the number of holes within each set of holes.

A catheter as defined in claim 3, wherein n = 4 such that  $\theta = 90^{\circ}$  and each set of holes includes 4 infusion holes.

A catheter as defined in claim 1, wherein  $\delta$  is an angle in a range selected from the group consisting of 1-89°, 91-179°, 181-269° and 271-359°.

A catheter as defined in claim 5, wherein  $\delta$  divides evenly into 360°.

A catheter as defined in claim 5, wherein δ divides evenly into 90°.

A catheter as defined in claim 5, wherein  $\delta$  equals 18°.

A catheter as defined in claim 1, wherein the infusion holes are longitudinally spaced at regular intervals of about 0.05 inch.

A catheter as defined in claim 1, wherein the infusion holes have a diameter in a range from about 0.002 inch to about 0.006 inch.

A catheter as defined in claim 1, wherein the infusion holes have a size gradient such that in an infusion length having a first hole and a last hole the last hole has a diameter greater than the diameter of the first hole.

A catheter as defined in claim 1, wherein the infusion length includes from between about 40 to about 240 holes.

A catheter for introducing a liquid into the vascular system comprising:
an elongated tubular body having a single lumen therethrough and an infusion length near a distal end thereof.

a plurality of infusion holes disposed along the infusion length of the tubular body, said infusion holes being longitudinally spaced along the infusion length of the tubular body at substantially regular intervals, said infusion holes belonging to a plurality of successive sets of n holes, each successive hole within a given of set of holes being radially spaced apart from each immediately preceding hole within the given set by an angular distance of about  $360^{\circ}/n$ , each set of holes having a first hole and an nth hole, each successive set of holes being circumferentially offset from an immediately preceding set by an angular distance of about  $x^{\circ}$  such that the first hole of an immediately succeeding set is circumferentially offset from the nth hole of an immediately preceding set by an angle of about  $360^{\circ}/n + x^{\circ}$ .

A catheter as defined in claim 13, wherein n equals an integer greater than

**Y**5.

1.

A catheter as defined in claim 13, wherein n = 4 and x = 18.

6. A

A catheter as defined in claim 13, wherein n = 5 and x = 15.

A catheter for introducing a liquid into the vascular system comprising:
an elongated tubular body having a single lumen therethrough and an infusion length near a distal end thereof.

a plurality of infusion holes disposed along the infusion length of the tubular body, said infusion holes being longitudinally spaced along the infusion for the property of the tubular body at substantially regular intervals, said infusion holes belonging to a plurality of successive sets of four holes such that each successive hole within a given set is radially spaced apart from each immediately preceding hole within the given set by an angular distance of about 90°, each set of holes having a first hole and a fourth hole, each successive set of holes being circumferentially offset from an immediately preceding set by an angular distance

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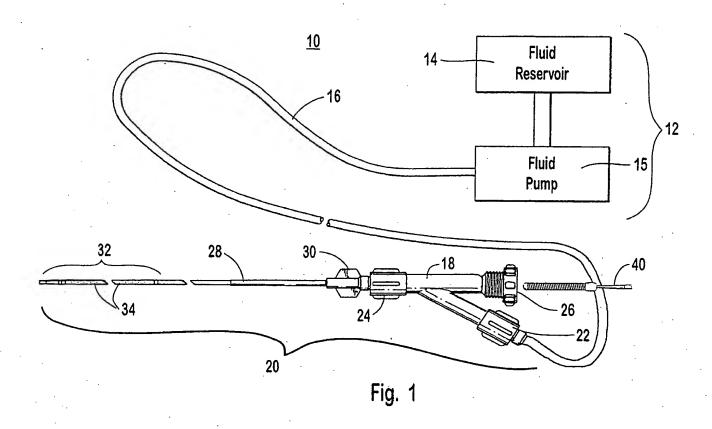
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of  $x^{\circ}$  such that the first hole of an immediately succeeding set is circumferentially offset from the fourth hole of an immediately preceding set by an angle of about  $90^{\circ} + x^{\circ}$ , wherein  $x^{\circ}$  divides evenly into  $90^{\circ}$ .

A catheter as defined in claim 17, wherein  $x^{\circ}$  is equal to 18°.

A catheter as defined in claim 17, wherein the infusion holes are longitudinally spaced at regular intervals of about 0.05 inch.

A catheter as defined in claim 17, wherein the infusion holes have a diameter in a range from about 0.002 inch to about 0.006 inch.



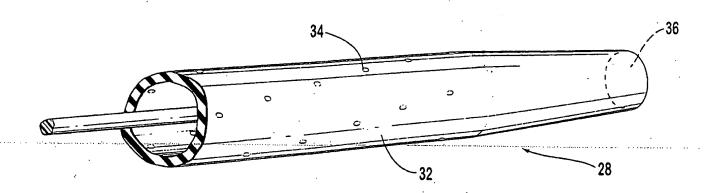
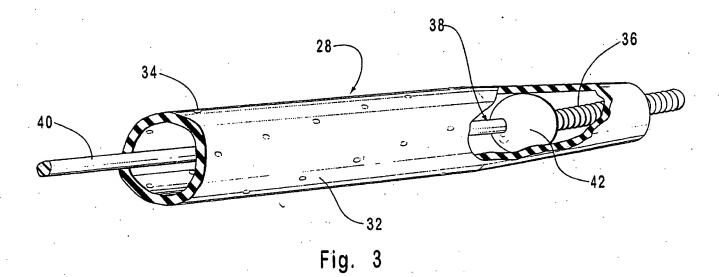


Fig. 2



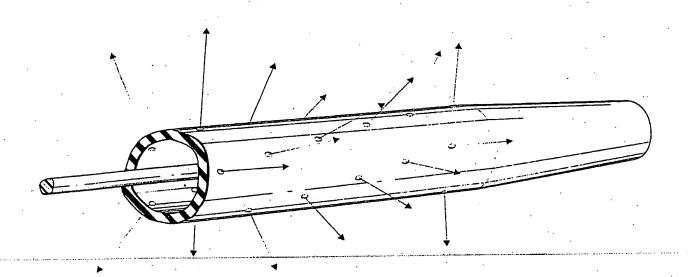


Fig. 4



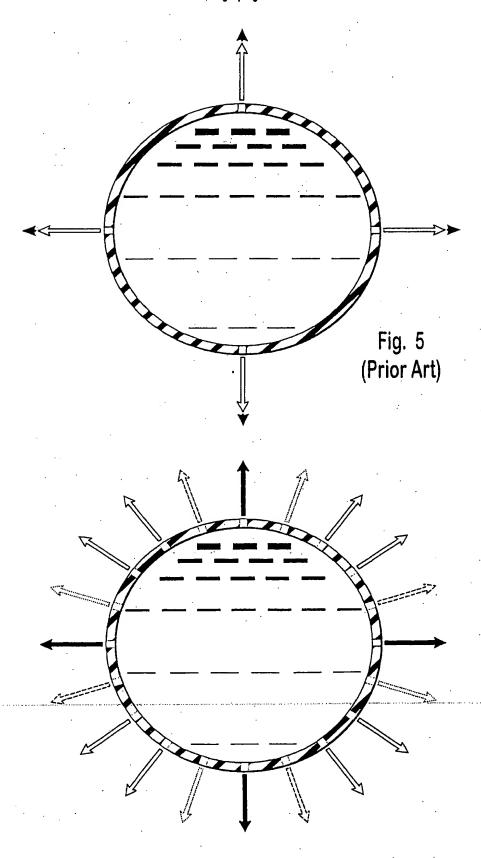


Fig. 6

